

## UNO shares 'An Evening With Afghanistan'

By SUSAN LAUGHLIN

An education professor told a UNO Library audience that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan brought about "the complete collapse of the educational system."

Wayne Glidden of UNO's College of Education was among the speakers for "An Evening With Afghanistan" April 24. The program, co-sponsored by the UNO Library Friends and the Library International Affairs Committee, included ethnic food, music, dance and a panel discussion.

"The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has brought with it many changes, including the complete collapse of the educational system," Glidden said. Many children have been deprived of an education because of Soviet attempts to convert the schools into propaganda centers, he said.

"The Sovietization of the Afghanistan schools has been done to try and foster the Soviet principles and to deter the resistance movements," said Glidden. "The Afghanistan people reject the Soviet dominance in their schools because of what that kind of education stands for now."

Many of the schools have been destroyed, leaving 85 percent of the country with no education facilities at all, said Glidden. The other 15 percent of the country is left with the Soviet model of education.

"To me as an educator, the Soviet invasion shows how painful decades of trying to structure an established school system that reaches people in the villages, towns and cities can be wiped away in just a few years," said Glidden.

Mogim Rahmanzai of UNO's Center for Afghan Studies said, "The Soviets are trying to create a new Afghanistan which is more accepting of the Soviet society and its ideologies. Many children are sent to the USSR for six months of training and indoctrination of the Soviet principles."

The Soviet manipulation of Afghanistan's educational system is a planned process, said Glidden. "The training of children begins with a selection process in Afghanistan to find those children that are most capable and susceptible to Soviet values."

The magnitude of damage caused by the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan has resulted in more than 5 million people fleeing to neighboring countries such as Pakistan and Iran, said Rahmanzai.

While more than 1 million children are deprived of an education, children in resistance-controlled Afghanistan areas are receiving textbooks and teachers with the help of the National Endowment of Democracy and the American Friends of Afghanistan.



—Susan Laughlin

About 90 people spent "An Evening With Afghanistan" in the UNO Library Thursday. The event included the music, clothing, food and dance of the Afghan people.

"The National Endowment of Democracy and American Friends of Afghanistan have sponsored programs which provide education to Afghanistan children by giving them textbooks and teachers, and we hope to be able to establish more schools for the children," Rahmanzai said.

The UNO Library was presented with a collection of 14 tapes concerning educational programs for Afghanistan children by the American Friends of Afghanistan. Richard Newell, a political science professor from the University of Northern Iowa, said, "UNO is privileged to have such an extensive collection of tapes and materials on Afghanistan which may be utilized for reference and the teaching of our society about Afghanistan."

Newell said there are problems in studying Afghanistan and its prospects for the future because it is almost impossible to enter the country.

Jack Shroder, UNO geology professor, said it is important to

keep up the library's Afghanistan collection for future scholars and researching purposes. "The role of UNO should be to maintain contact with Afghanistan and provide moral support," said Shroder.

Newell said it is important to remember we can learn from the Afghanistan people who live in Omaha. "The library should consider the prospects of the human aspect of recollection on the way Afghanistan society was before the Soviet invasion," he said.

"The American policies denied Afghanistan and its security to our nation until December of 1979 when the Soviets took over the country," Newell said.

"The people of Afghanistan embody their culture and it is important to keep that culture they represent alive," said Shroder. "The only way to keep the Afghanistan culture alive is to talk about it and make the country's situation known to everyone."

## UNO's Lincoln-based programs not affected by cuts

Part eight of a series on UNO budget cuts.

By POLIDOROS C. PSERROS

While the Omaha units of the UNL-based Colleges of Engineering and Technology and Home Economics will not be affected by budget cuts, UNO's College of Fine Arts will make a permanent \$28,520 budget cut as of July 1.

As of Friday, UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale had not announced where academic affairs budget cuts totaling \$975,000 would be made. UNL had undergone a lengthy process

to determine where \$3.8 million would be cut from its budget. UNL officials said they had a good idea where cuts would be made.

Robert Furgason, UNL vice chancellor for academic affairs, said that of UNL's \$3.8 million budget cut (including \$800,000 from the School of Agriculture), \$2 million came out of non-academic areas.

Stan Liberty, dean of the engineering college, said \$30,000 would be cut from its budget. The college eliminated an unfilled computer science faculty position. It was one of

three faculty slots that had been authorized two years ago for further expansion, he said.

Liberty said the UNO unit serves 1,000 out of the college's 3,000 graduates. Thirty out of the college's 110 faculty are based at UNO. The college's total budget, including a graduate program at UNL, is \$6.5 million. The UNO unit costs about \$1.5 million to operate.

UNL began its budget process when the deans met with Ferguson to review programs. The deans made their recommendations to two UNL committees. Public hearings were conducted, and the two committees filed reports to Massengale, who is expected to make his decisions soon, said Liberty.

The expected cut from the engineering college will have no impact on students, said Liberty. Other colleges had larger cuts, particularly the College of Architecture, which had more than \$100,000 cut from its budget.

A proposal to transfer the College of Home Economics' interior design program to the College of Architecture was made, said Hazel Anthony, home economics dean. "I'm pretty sure that's not going to happen," she said. "Our interior design program will remain."

She said such a change could force some Omaha students to attend school in Lincoln. Many students wouldn't be able to do that, Anthony said.

The College of Home Economics serves 1,050 undergraduate students, with 250 majors in Omaha, Anthony said. There were 200 master's degree candidates. The college has \$1.9 million budget. Anthony said it was difficult to determine how much of that budget operates the Omaha unit.

Raymond Hagh, chairman of the Academic Planning Committee that reviewed the proposed cuts, recommended to Massengale that the home economics college retain the interior design program.

Furgason said the college could either transfer the interior design program to the College of Architecture at a savings of \$40,000, or it

could choose to make other cuts.

Anthony said she will cut \$62,000 from her budget next year. Most of the cuts will be covered through the loss of a vacant faculty position and graduate assistants. One Omaha instructor volunteered to work three-quarters time instead of full-time. That change wouldn't affect any UNO sections, Anthony said.

David Shrader, dean of UNO's College of Fine Arts, said most of its \$28,520 cut will come from the dean's budget, music operating costs, theater production costs and the UNO Art Gallery.

Since the college had no vacant slots, Shrader said, the College of Fine Arts' share of UNO's \$660,546 academic budget cuts had to come from several programs.

A budget review and overhaul allowed the college to cut \$10,148 from the music department's operating expenses. Eliminating costume expenses from one of four dramatic arts department theater productions will save \$5,000. The Art Gallery will cut \$3,000, and the dean will cut \$6,652 from his budget.

Shrader said the cuts to the Art Gallery reduces the college's ability to bring in any expensive shows. "Money doesn't guarantee an excellent show," he added. Shrader said UNO was able to present artist Elizabeth Layton's show for the cost of shipping, and the Layton show was UNO's best this year. UNO will have to "focus on regional artists" rather than national shows, he said.

Shrader said \$1,220 will be cut from the Writer's Workshop and \$2,500 will be cut from the Fine Arts Press.

When Shrader came to UNO four years ago, his office had five full-time employees. His staff now consists of two employees, and he shares a part-time secretary.

The college has a \$1.5 million budget and 300 majors, a 17 percent increase in the last year, said Shrader. Credit hours have increased 11 percent while other colleges are losing students, he said.

## UNO athlete arrested

By KEVIN McANDREWS

As of Sunday, no charges were filed against Terald Allen, 21, a UNO football player arrested April 25 for theft by allegedly receiving over \$1,000 of stolen property, according to Omaha Police.

Omaha Police obtained a search warrant for 5526 Cedar Street, where Allen was living, according to his grandfather. They recovered more than \$1,000 of allegedly stolen UNO property, according to a police report.

The report stated the police had been conducting "an ongoing investigation" and discovered that Allen allegedly had in his possession stolen UNO property. Richard Hancock, a UNO Campus Security investigator, said some of the allegedly stolen property had not been reported to police, according to the report.

Two items listed in the report and allegedly found in Allen's possession had been reported stolen by UNO Campus Security in June 1985, according to Campus Security reports filed at Omaha Police Headquarters.

At least eight Campus Security reports

of stolen property were filed between June 1985 and the present. As of Sunday, the Gateway could find no connection between these reports and Allen's arrest.

Bobby Thompson, UNO athletic director, said he did not plan to take action against Allen pending further development of the situation. He said if action is necessary "I assure you we'll deal with it."

Gary Anderson, UNO sports information director, declined comment.

"A person is innocent until proven guilty, right?" said Anderson. He said the UNO athletic department was withholding comment "out of respect for Terry and everyone else concerned."

In 1984, Allen, a 6-foot-1, 185 pound starting flanker for the Mavericks, was the leading receiver in the North Central Conference (NCC) and first-team all-NCC. In 1985, Allen was named second-team all-NCC as an all-purpose player.

Allen is a senior in Business Administration at UNO. Neither Allen nor Sandy Buda, head coach of UNO football, could be reached for comment.



# Non-academic areas take their share of budget cuts

By POLIDOROS C. PSERROS

Four UNO administrators charged with supporting academics will cut a total of \$230,840 from their budgets beginning July 1. The cuts are part of a \$1.2 million reduction to the UNO budget made by the Nebraska Legislature last year.

The cuts are distributed as follows:

- **Division of Business and Finance (\$133,756).** Gary Carrico, vice chancellor of business and finance, said five support positions will be cut (\$85,882); the associate vice chancellor position was reclassified as assistant vice chancellor/director of finance (\$10,830); Plant Management will shift 18 night custodians to daytime hours, saving the differential paid to night workers, and UNO will cut building and maintenance (\$9,525) and reduce the equipment budgets (\$6,652).

- **Division of Educational and Student Services (\$50,744).** Vice Chancellor Richard Hoover said UNO will eliminate the Career Development Center (\$18,780); a Counseling and University Division psychologist will be replaced with two graduate assistants (\$15,898); the salary of a vacant Audio Visual position will be reduced (\$1,120); a vacant clerical position in the Registrar's Office will be eliminated (\$10,446); and mid-term grades will no longer be mailed to students (\$4,500).

- **Campus Computing (\$22,053).** Director Richard Snowden said UNO will cut \$400 from the \$500 budget for general maintenance of the computer room. The balance will come from not purchasing computer equipment. It will not buy 24 access ports (\$7,200) for the VAX II/780 computer system; software for the Materials Management System (\$2,575) will not be purchased; a printer switch for the academic computers (\$1,878) will not be bought; and UNO will not buy a fire suppression system for the computer room (\$10,000).

- **Chancellor's Office, University Relations (\$24,287).** Lou Cartier, University Relations director, said UNO will eliminate one position in University Television. The slot is currently filled, and the employee is expected to voluntarily leave within the next year. The elimination of the slot will ultimately save \$20,000, said Cartier. Until then, he said, the position will be covered from revolving funds, money that must be earned by either University Television or University Radio (\$6,149).

UNO will reduce hourly wages to television employees (\$4,767). A vacant staff position in the Chancellor's Office will be reclassified (\$3,644). The catalog budget will be reduced (\$3,588). A vacant staff position in University Relations will also be reduced (\$3,245). Cartier's mailings and publication budget will be reduced (\$2,894).

Carrico said that in the last three or four years, there have been greater demands on the business and finance division to provide information about UNO's operations to the Legislature,

the Board of Regents, and the community at large. As a result, "there has been an increased work load on staff and resources."

Jim Veiga, director of custodial/grounds services, said he decided to shift personnel to protect custodial jobs.

"We won't have to get rid of anyone," said Veiga. Two supervisors and 16 custodians will work the 5 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. shift starting May 12. Eight custodians volunteered to make the shift, and eight others with the least seniority were picked to make the change. Their salaries will be cut 10 percent.

Hoover said the elimination of the Career Development Center will have a negative impact on UNO. Last year (fiscal 1984-85), the center recorded 4,169 service contacts. Eliminating the center could cut out career testing, individual career counseling, and career development workshops, he said.

By not mailing midterm grades, further problems in alerting advisors about students with difficulties could be created, said Hoover.

There were few options in making the cuts, Hoover said, and the ones that were made would hurt marginal and undecided students the most. Eliminating a clerical position in the Registrar's Office may have also been a mistake, he said, because UNO has not completed a full year of its new computer registration system, and the current staff could be overworked.

Snowden said he made cuts in Campus Computing in attempt to avoid affecting students at all while making a minimal impact on student services.

He said he made a gamble by not buying a fire suppression system. Although the computer room is staffed around the clock, there is no provision for coverage if an operator leaves to go to the restroom, for example. The computers are valued at \$2.5 million, he said.

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# What's Next

As difficult as it may be to believe, finals week is just around the corner. To make certain that all students and faculty show up for the right exams on the right days, the *Gateway* has published the below final examination schedule (reprinted from the spring course schedule booklet).

Final examinations for all late afternoon classes and evening classes not listed in the schedule will be held at their regularly sched-

uled class meeting times.

## Free tunes today

Falcon Eddy, a four-member band, will perform in the Student Center Ballroom today, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Omaha comedian Rob Noxious will open for the group.

The band has performed live with the Romantics, Iron Butterfly, and the Elvis Brothers. Last year, the group recorded its first album.

The event is free and open to the public.

# Finals week cometh

## Career planning

A Career/Life Planning Workshop will be offered this summer in the Career Development Center, Eppley Building Room 115.

The workshop will be held on five Thursday sessions, beginning June 12 and ending July 10, from 9 a.m. to noon. The workshop will explore people skills, personal values, career opportunities, academic planning and work goals.

Registration for the workshop is required by June 1. Enrollment is limited and a \$15 materials fee will be charged. For more information, call Ronnie Thompson or Betty Curry at 554-2409.

## Learn to swim

Summer learn-to-swim classes will be available to children of all UNO students and Campus Recreation Activity Card holders.

Three learn-to-swim sessions will be offered: June 16-27, July 7-18, and July 28-August 8. Each session will offer two class periods: 2:24-5 p.m. and 3:34-5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Registration for the sessions begins Monday, May 12 on a first-come-first-serve basis, in the Campus Recreation Office, HPER Building Room 100.

## Book conservation

The UNO Library Friends and the Nebraska Conservation Committee are sponsoring "Conservation of Books: Old and Modern" to be held Thursday, May 8, at 7 p.m. in the UNO Library Room 205.

The program will feature a slide show and presentation by Bill Anthony, head of book preservation at the UNO Library. He will explain techniques in book preservation dating from the 19th and 20th centuries.

The program is free and open to the public.

## Poetry and fiction

A selection of poetry and fiction readings will be presented by the UNO Writer's Workshop Friday, May 2, at 8 p.m. in the Strauss Performing Arts Center Room 105.

Four poets and two fiction writers in the Workshop will read their original works. The event, featuring student works from UNO writing courses during the past semester, caps the spring portion of the Reading Series in Contemporary Literature sponsored by the Workshop. The series is co-sponsored by the College of Fine Arts.

The event is free and open to the public.

## A musical picnic

The Omaha Classical Guitar Society presents "A Musical Picnic" in concert Friday, May 9, at 7 p.m. in the Strauss Performing Arts Center. The concert is the final event in the society's 1985/86 concert series and will feature members playing guitar music from classics to jazz.

Highlighting the program will be "Picnic Suite" by French jazz composer Claude Bolling. The Picnic Suite featured performers are Kevin Mooney, guitar; Karen Diamond, piano; Carol Schmidt, flute; Bill Ritchie, double bass; and Luigi Waites, drums.

Tickets for the performance cost \$5 and are available at Brandeis, TIX and Music Gallery. For more information, call 334-9282.

## Commencement

Commencement for May graduates will be held Saturday, May 10, at 10 a.m. in the Fieldhouse. Faculty members should assemble no later than 9:30 a.m. in the northwest corner of the Fieldhouse.

## FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Second Semester 1985-86

May 3-9, 1986

Class Meeting

Saturday Morning Classes

7:00 MWF or more days

7:00 TTH Only

8:00 MWF or more days

8:30 TTH Only

9:00 MWF

10:00 TTH Only

10:00 MWF or more days

11:00 MWF or more days

11:30 TTH Only

12:00 MWF or more days

1:00 TTH

1:00 MWF or more days

2:00 MWF or more days

2:30 TTH

3:00 MWF or more days

4:15 MW Only

4:15 TTH Only

5:40 TTH Only

5:40 MW Only

Time: Day and Date

Sat., May 3

Mon., May 5

Thurs., May 8

Wed., May 7

Tues., May 6

Fri., May 9

Thurs., May 8

Mon., May 5

Wed., May 7

Tues., May 6

Fri., May 9

Thurs., May 8

Mon., May 5

Wed., May 7

Tues., May 6

Fri., May 9

Mon., May 5

Thurs., May 8

Tues., May 6

Wed., May 7

Examination Hours

9:00-11:00 a.m.

7:00-9:00 a.m.

7:00-9:00 a.m.

8:00-10:00 a.m.

8:30-10:30 a.m.

9:00-11:00 a.m.

10:00-12:00 noon

10:00-12:00 noon

11:00-1:00 p.m.

11:30-1:30 p.m.

12:00-2:00 p.m.

1:00-3:00 p.m.

1:00-3:00 p.m.

2:00-4:00 p.m.

2:30-4:30 p.m.

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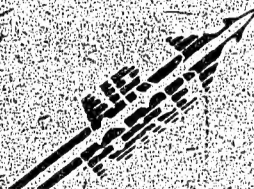
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To receive a full refund bring lock and towel to Campus Recreation Office (Room 100).

### LOCKER RENEWAL:

To maintain current locker for the summer semester, come in person to the Campus Recreation Room 100 HPER and complete a renewal form prior to the locker renewal deadline.



# Professor says computers need not be public enemy

By MARK ELLIOTT

Some teachers believe computers are public enemy No. 1, according to a UNO professor. However Roger Berg, a professor of teacher education, said he believed computers belonged in the classroom.

During a recent national meeting of teachers, Berg said, most of the educators said they were a little afraid of computers. The most common fears dealt with the availability of compatible software and the possibility that students would know more about the machines than the teachers.

Berg said a study he conducted in Omaha revealed that local teachers had the same concerns about computers.

"Inexperienced teachers had many personal concerns and asked whether the money might

be better spent on materials or salaries," he said. "Experienced teachers, on the other hand, tended to report more management concerns, and the content of their personal concerns were more focused on learning."

There are seven steps of concern when teachers start using computers in the classroom, said Berg.

The first step is awareness of computers, he said. Most non-users of computers are at that stage.

The second step is information. Berg said people at this stage include those who are just beginning to understand computers and asking a lot of questions.

The third step is called the personal stage, Berg said. In this stage, teachers worry about "whether or not I'll look bad using a computer."

Berg called the fourth step "management." In this stage, teachers worry whether or not the resources are available to run the computer the way it should be run.

The final stage Berg discussed, consequences, dealt with what teachers think students are learning from using the computer.

The final two stages, collaboration and re-focusing, were left undiscussed. Berg said these stages were of concern to more experienced users.

"Research shows that everyone may have a constellation of concerns," said Berg, "but most novices or inexperienced users of an innovation tend to have high personal concerns. As these personal concerns are met, then management and consequence concerns can be met."

Berg said that research has shown that the difference between standard classroom teaching and teaching done with the aid of computers was hardly noticeable when measuring how well children learn. But the children themselves said they thought learning with the computer was more fun, and most children thought the machine was fairer.

Berg drew a parallel between learning computer science and other subjects. When Israeli children were first introduced to television, they learned in school the correct way to watch it. Students were shown how to spot the main characters and how to watch for different plot techniques. Consequently, said Berg, the children's reading scores went up.

Using computers in American classrooms could have a similar effect, said Berg.

## Letters

## Thanks and thanks again

### To the Editor:

I would like to thank Dan Prescher twice over: first for allowing me this space for my comment; and secondly for pointing out the error in my statement that athletics are the sole unifying force on the UNO campus (*Gateway*, April 23).

Of course athletics is not the sole unifying force, and I apologize to both the students of UNO and the Board of Regents for making that statement. It was clearly a bad choice of words. What I had meant to say was "Athletics is one of the major unifying forces at UNO." If one doubts the truth of that statement, then that person is clearly ignoring the football, basketball and baseball players, not to mention all the students of this university who watch and enjoy our sports. Our athletics provides a focal point for the diverse student body that exists here

at UNO, and on these points it clearly deserves all the financial support that we as students here at UNO give it.

But there are of course other unifying forces here at UNO, and I would like to take this chance to mention two. The first is our student newspaper, the *Gateway*. It provides the student body another forum to share the many different views that we all hold. Also, it tells us of the many different groups and activities here on campus. The *Gateway* is also very deserving of the financial support we give it with our student fees.

The student government that we have here at UNO is also a major unifying factor for our student body. Through our representatives, we are provided with quality representation. Our senators promote long-term goals for the improvement of our university. They attempt at all times to do what is best for all

of us, and in doing so unify UNO. Our student government is worth its weight in gold, or our student fees.

Dan Prescher stated that we all are unified by a fear that we may all be priced out of a chance for an education here at UNO. I do not know if that is true, but if it is, our only hope for keeping this university in its present excellent shape is to use all of our unifying forces to protect and promote our university.

Greg R. Gunderson

### Lack of fairness

### To the Editor:

Whatever happened to the precept of fair coverage in journalism? I refer specifically to your editorial entitled "Unity at UNO," published in the April 23, 1986 issue of the *Gateway*. Surely you have heard of fairness and good journalism; my question is, why don't you practice it?

(continued on page 7)

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# Comment

## What is very likely not the last word on this subject

Jim Corson is upset, as you can see by his letter.

He accuses me of failing to practice "fairness" and "good journalism" in my editorial of April 23 titled "Unity at UNO," in which I disagreed with Greg Gunderson's characterization of athletics as the sole unifying force on the UNO campus.

Corson bases his criticism of the editorial on his own journalistic experience. However, his experience apparently doesn't include knowing the difference between an editorial and a news story. When he refers in his first paragraph to "the precept of fair coverage in journalism," he is quite correct; news stories should be fair and even-handed, and I believe the story by Patrick Stephenson on the meeting at which Mr. Gunderson made his unfortunate comment followed that precept.

As to the fairness and good journalism of my editorial: It represented my opinion of words spoken by a public figure at a public meeting. What offends Corson's sense of fairness, garnered from his journalistic experience, is that

I did not consult Gunderson prior to writing my article.

Gunderson's words at the Regents' meeting are a matter of record, as are the words of any official at an open meeting. If Ronald Reagan makes a public pronouncement, it is not the duty of commentators to call the White House and ask him if that's what he really meant to say. If an official makes a statement he or she later regrets or wishes to clarify, it is his or her duty to do so. It is not the duty of the press to hold publication until the official is sure he or she has it right.

Corson's experienced journalistic sensibilities are also disturbed by the fact that I was not at the meeting in question, but based my writing on "conjecture, hearsay evidence, and an Omaha World-Herald article which you did not cite as a source."

Notice, Corson never says anywhere in this diatribe that Gunderson didn't say what I wrote in the editorial. It simply seems to Corson that, if I wasn't there to hear it myself, I have no

right to write about it.

If Corson follows the dictates of his own journalistic experience, then, he will never express an opinion about a legislative budget proposal he wasn't in the committee room in Lincoln to hear, or offer his advice to fellow student government members on matters brought up in subcommittee meetings at which he was not physically present. Neither will he believe the "hearsay evidence" of his recording secretary to inform him to affairs he might have missed at regular student government meetings.

It does strike me as odd that the only person I discussed my sources for and writing of the editorial with was Greg Gunderson, via the telephone. I don't recall Corson either being in my office or identifying himself on another line to overhear the conversation. In this case, whatever he says I based my editorial on is a matter of conjecture on his part, unless he has some hearsay evidence from someone. He certainly never called me for clarification.

Just a minor point: Corson says further down

in his letter that I mentioned "The senseless reductions in UNO's funding" in my editorial. A person of Corson's journalistic experience should know better. While I did mention budget cuts, never once did I characterize them as "senseless." Neither did I in any way characterize the amount of the student fee increase, or express an opinion on whether it indeed should be spent on athletics.

The sole thrust of my editorial was Gunderson's statement before the Board of Regents that athletics is the sole unifying force at UNO, a statement which is an undeniable matter of record. It seems another missing piece of Corson's journalistic experience is a careful reading of the material at hand.

I try not to respond to letters in the same issue in which they appear; it gains the last word by taking unfair advantage of the editorial function. However, this is the next-to-the-last issue of my editorship, and I include my reply to Corson's letter in this issue to provide him the opportunity of response in the last edition.

—DAN PRESCHER



John Malnack II

## The facts on state support of education

Here on campus hardly a week goes by anymore without my hearing what seems to have become almost a cliché among some folks. Namely, "Nebraska taxpayers are not willing to make enough of a financial commitment to state-supported higher education." Thus, according to this line of reasoning, the University of Nebraska has had to endure recurrent budget cuts or the prospect thereof.

Conversely, other people frequently contend that Nebraskans already are taxed enough—or too much—and consequently (notwithstanding the relative importance of state-supported postsecondary education and other valuable state-funded entities), Nebraska should beware of tax rates that could discourage potential new residents and businesses from locating here.

At first glance it might seem fairly obvious these two differing schools of thought could not both be correct—unless state taxes indeed already are high enough given Nebraska's economic situation, and, thus, state-supported higher education needs a larger slice of the same size tax-revenue pie. In short, it seems the only way both these arguments could be correct is if *relocated* (rather than *increased*) tax revenues are warranted for Nebraska's state colleges and university. But then remember that the NU budget already is the largest single part of the state general fund budget.

I started investigating this apparent contradiction to learn what the truth actually is. For instance, where does Nebraska rank among the 50 states in state revenue spent for public higher education on a per-student basis? And how does Nebraska rank regarding per-capita state taxation?

I finally found some answers, and they might surprise you. But a note here: The next several paragraphs include numerous comparative statistics that I have tried to present in an easily read, easily understood fashion. However, no matter how clearly presented, wading through many statistics can be tedious. Nevertheless, unless you already know this information, read this. *Read all of it*, particularly if you are a student or faculty or staff member in a state-supported Nebraska college or the university. *This concerns you.* Also, the various figures here presented are the most recent currently available.

First, Nebraska ranked 45th among all the states in state tax revenue devoted to public postsecondary education in the 1984-85 academic year on a per-student basis—\$2,646 per student. This is according to D. Kenneth Halstead, research econ-

omist with the U.S. Department of Education. This figure does not include research, agriculture or medical expenditures, Halstead said.

Halstead said 7.9 percent of Nebraska state plus local tax revenue went for public higher education in the 1984-85 academic year, compared to an 8.9 percent average nationally.

These statistics are most significant, however, when considered along with Nebraska's comparative ranking in state taxation and per-capita income.

Deichert found in a recent study that Nebraska's state tax

**How much tax revenue is enough or too much, and how much, should be spent on what, is largely an individual value judgement. Long-range decisions about this likely will depend primarily on which interests are proclaimed most effectively.**

revenues per capita were \$648 in the 1985 state fiscal year (1 July 1984 through 30 June 1985). The national average was \$902.40.

Deichert's research also indicated that total Nebraska state tax revenue declined 2.7 percent between 1984 and 1985—one of only four states that had a loss. Nationally, state tax revenue grew an average of 9.1 percent from 1984 to 1985. Furthermore, only one state's tax revenue declined more than Nebraska's. (Part of this probably is due to Nebraska's so-called "piggybacked" state income tax system that is based on one's federal income-tax liability. When federal income-tax rates decline—as happened during President Reagan's first term—so do Nebraska income-tax collections.)

Compare this with Nebraska's per-capita income for calendar year 1984—\$12,430 as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Deichert's findings indicated that Nebraska ranked 23rd highest among the 50 states in per-capita income; the national average was \$12,789.

### 13 percent increase

Deichert said total personal income in Nebraska increased 13 percent between 1983 and 1984, the fourth-highest growth rate in the nation. Personal per-capita income increased 10.4 percent nationally.

Nebraska's fiscal-1985 tax revenues were \$52.10 per \$1,000 calendar-year-1984 personal income, ranking Nebraska 47th among all states in this respect. The national average was \$71.14 in state tax revenue per \$1,000 personal income.

Compared with fiscal-1984 state tax revenue per \$1,000 of 1983 personal income, Nebraska tax revenue fell 13.9 percent, "the worst loss in the nation," according to Deichert.

However, Deichert said Nebraska ranks "in the teens" among the 50 states in level of local government taxation. Including both state and local taxes, Deichert said Nebraska ranks about 24th or 25th.

So, what do all these data mean? In short, on a per-capita basis compared with the other states, Nebraskans' personal income was slightly below the national average but was increasing at significantly above the average rate (despite what Deichert estimated is about 25 percent of Nebraska farmers who are having some difficulty paying their debts).

Nebraska state-tax revenues were relatively low, having dropped markedly while local taxes were above average; and Nebraska state-tax revenue spent on state-supported higher education was slightly above the national average (again, on a per-capita basis).

But on a per-student basis, Nebraska ranked near the bottom among the 50 states in that last category.

Taking these slightly dated statistics by themselves, and assuming that the indications have not changed dramatically, it would appear Nebraska could afford to spend more on its higher educational system.

Statistics alone cannot of course resolve the ongoing debate over how much tax revenue Nebraska should collect versus how much should be spent on postsecondary education. But these data hopefully make the waters a bit less muddy by placing this issue in a broader context vis a vis other states.

Deichert said Nebraska taxes indeed might be both too high and not high enough, depending of course upon one's priorities. For example, an elderly Nebraska homeowner living on a modest, fixed income might be hard-pressed to pay his property taxes; for this person, local taxes, not the NU budget, are the main concern.

Thus it comes full circle: Comparative data on income and taxation can provide a better understanding of particulars, but clear-cut solutions remain elusive. How much taxation is sufficient or too much, and how much of it should be spent on what, is largely an individual value judgement, made by Nebraska voters and, by extension, their elected representatives.

Data such as those presented here are useful if and when any long-range policy decisions are made about this issue. But it would seem a fair assumption that far-reaching decisions about how much state tax support NU deserves largely will depend on whose priorities carry the political day. And this likely will depend primarily on who proclaims his interest most loudly and most effectively.

If, after having read this, you believe NU deserves more than it is receiving, now might be a good time to write a letter to your state senator.

### The Gateway

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Letters to the editor must be signed, but those with noms de plume may be accepted. All letters should include appropriate identification, address, and telephone number. (Address and telephone number will not be published.) Letters critical of individuals must be signed by using the first and last name, or initials and last name. Preference is given to typed letters. All correspondence is subject to editing and available space.

Letters exceeding two (2) typewritten pages will be considered editorial commentary, and are subject to the above criteria.

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**For instance, where does Nebraska rank among the 50 states in state revenue spent for state-supported higher education on a per-student basis? And how does Nebraska rank regarding per-capita state taxation?**



## Op Ed

## Neurotica by Karen Nelson

## A decade at the Hotel UNO

"UNO is a lot like the Hotel California" I said to Dave. The old Eagles song was playing on the jukebox as we discussed our futures. "You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave." Remember?"

Dave smiled. "Heck, yes. It took me 10 years to graduate. I'm surprised to hear you say it, though. I thought you were going to make it straight through in four years, like normal people."

"You should know better than to mention me and normal people in the same breath," I said. "Life keeps getting in the way of school, that's all. Between having to skip a year because my back went out, various involvements with the *Gateway* and constant wars with emotional and writing slumps, it's a miracle I'm *this* close to graduating. If I had a relationship going through any part of this, I'd really be in trouble."

"Or children," said Dave. "Or a job more demanding than flipping burgers at McDonald's. Or World War III. There's always something, I suppose."

I finished my vodka sour and ordered a second one, along with a beer for Dave. "The trouble is, everything needs attention *right now*. It's not like you can tell an injury or a depression that it has to wait just because you have finals. And try getting through a writing class when everything you put on paper reads as though it's been translated from Sanskrit into English by someone who is illiterate in both languages." I took out my billfold. "I'm sorry, I'm whining, I'm afraid."

"No kidding." He took a sip of his beer. "Actually, you sound a lot like I did when I was a UNO senior. Talk about getting

burned out... I was taking 16 hours, and working a full-time job, and working on an internship, and going out with a woman that I thought I was going to marry. I got fired from the job, broke up with the woman and blew three important mid-terms on the same day. The next day, I got into a two-car collision (the driver of the other car wasn't even insured), my apartment was broken into and everything was stolen, and my mother went into the hospital.

Then things *really* got bad. When spring break came around, I decided I was going to hitchhike to Chicago to see some friends. The guy who picked me up just happened to have escaped from a prison in Kansas. When we stopped at a truck stop to eat, I went to the men's room and found myself another ride. Unfortunately, he turned out to be a Jesus freak on his way to Ohio for a convention of some kind. For a while, I almost wished I was back with the escaped convict from Kansas.

"I finally made it to Chicago and got mugged. When I reported the incident, I got busted, by a cop who thought he recognized me from the '68 Democratic Convention, and I had to call my friends to get me bailed out. Three weeks later, I made it back to Omaha."

That sounded worse than burnout. That sounded like total disaster.

"Don't tell me," I said. "Let me guess. Once you got back to Omaha, you pulled yourself together and passed all your classes with flying colors, right?"

"Oh, hell no," said Dave. "I flunked everything. Had to take that entire semester over. It was absolutely the worst period of my life."

"Oh," I said. "Then, you took those same classes the next semester, passed them all with no trouble at all, and graduated, right?"

"No," said Dave. "I didn't graduate for another three years after that because I was working another job and decided to change majors. Nothing serious, though."

I had the vague feeling that I was supposed to be inspired to go out and attack the last week of the semester with new vigor. Somehow, it just wasn't working.

"Well, gee, that's nice," I said, "but I still have final projects to finish and I still have to settle for writing things that are less than good enough. How can I allow myself to hand in an assignment that's just not good enough?"

Dave checked the bar and made sure no one else was looking. "Hey, Karen, I'll tell you a secret about instructors, OK? You probably even already know this, but you need to be reminded. No matter how high your instructors' standards are, they'll never be higher than the standards you set for yourself. If you keep aiming for your standards instead of your instructors', you're going to give yourself a nervous breakdown."

"So lighten up, will you? You'll make it out of UNO eventually. If not this year, then soon. After you've been out a few years, who's going to care if that term paper was less than comprehensive?"

I still didn't feel any better, but I knew he was right. His last question, however, triggered a new worry.

"But — but suppose I *do* graduate? Good heavens, what do I do then?"



Jeffrey A. Kallman

The best thing you can say for the cartel called Van Halen is, they at least have a digestible name. It is the family name of the cartel's drummer and lead guitarist. By itself, the name suggests more to do with astronomy than with music: you know, the Van Halen Belt? Forgive me, gentle reader; the afflictions of Annex 26 are not restricted to those holding the rank of copy editor.

But Van Halen the name has a nice, almost pastoral tone when you enunciate it, as compared to the monickers adopted by Van Halen's fellow musicmunitions experts: say, Iron Maiden. That sounds as though it belongs upon the guidance fin of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

So, what is the worst thing you can say for the cartel called Van Halen? Well, you can say they are due to make a performance stop in Omaha, very soon, making of the Civic Auditorium a *sportspalast* into which their minions will file, to receive the latest installment of Van Halen's canon, called "How To Neutralize Your Remaining Senses In Two Hours Or Less." Van Halen's canon is a little less damaging, perhaps, than the canon obeyed by the Libyan diplomatic corps, but Libyan diplomats do perform with a degree of subtlety alien to heavy metal rock

and roll bands.

Now, get this. According to the advance warnings, Van Halen's recent march across the Republic represents nothing less than the return of the "real" Van Halen, by which is meant: ... What? They have recovered from an affliction of good taste and harmony? They have returned to basics and prepared to blast their disciples' faculties to smithereens through a Berlin Wall of amplifiers?

This reminds me of the desperate measures New York Mets publicists took to sustain interest in the poor darlings during the team's late-1970s depression. The Magic Is Back! The Magic Is Real! Catch It! The magic was black magic, as the Mets fought the Chicago Cubs for bragging rights to mediocrity. By announcing the return of the "real" Van Halen, is the cartel's management seeking support for a shopworn gathering of designated hitters?

Winning the heavy metal pennant is an achievement of dubious substance, along the lines of Soviet military victories over Afghanistan's children. As Sidney Zion has written, "The only wonder is that no rock group called itself Gresham's Law."

But there is a heavy metal band which calls

## Pyrotechnical lobotomy

itself Motley Crue. This may be the only known case of truth in rock and roll advertising. Actually, a roll call of heavy metal history reveals some other intriguing names. Blue Cheer (for the way we washed now and then?). AC/DC (more bucks for the bang?). Iron Maiden (a code name for Abu Nidal's girl friend?). The Dictators. Led Zeppelin (oxymorons are quite popular among the breed). Black Sabbath (the liturgy for the First Church of Lucifer, Scientist). Zebra (representing animal magnetism, doubtless).

So what's in a name? Good question. But Blue Cheer named themselves, in fact, for a strain of LSD which was once quite popular amongst the zombies of San Francisco. They were also managed at one point by a former Hell's Angel known as Gut. There are those who claim crashing a motorcycle into an oncoming subway train sounds more melodious than Blue Cheer's first album, which anticipated *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* by a few years.

Notwithstanding, there is an air approaching bliss around the audiences for these music-munitionists, and one hates to remove the air for fear something more lethal might soon seize their fancy. You cannot eclipse easily the sight

of a few thousand children emerging at the conclusion of one of these rituals, behaving as though they had witnessed the arrival of the Messiah on earth, in the form of a semiconfused werewolf and his three flanking horsemen, performing music more appropriate for cauterizing the PLO than establishing the kingdom of God.

But, you can try; however, the attempt might leave you with a cold sensation at the arteries. The heavy metal minions, one gathers, have seen a world which assaults nuance and senses, around the bend from their incandescent adolescence; thus, they retreat ... into a world which assaults nuance and senses. This is not even rebellion, anymore; did Cambodia truly rebel, when it exchanged one brand of Communism for another?

From technocracy to pyrotechnical lobotomy: such is the path of the heavy metal audience. It will not do, then, simply to counter with a learned exegesis exalting the lucid, harmonic majesties of, say, Duke Ellington, to these poor souls. Many of their parents have been in retreat from that same world, and pose the same question on another level: how jog the mind with Coleridge when it is suspended in front of catfights amongst the Carringtons?

## Letters

(continued from page 5)

In my journalistic experience, fairness includes soliciting responses from a subject of an article before it is printed. Executive Treasurer Gunderson, however, was not consulted prior to your editorial. In fact, you were not even present at the April 19 meeting of the Board of Regents when Mr. Gunderson made the remarks you quoted. Instead, you based your editorial on conjecture, hearsay evidence, and an *Omaha World-Herald* article which you did not cite as a source. Have you ever heard the term plagiarism, Mr. Prescher? Obviously, your standards as editor are quite lax.

Furthermore, while you mentioned the senseless reductions in UNO's funding, you ignored the fact that our student athletes have been a driving force in maintaining what funding we have. Our student athletes have made a tremendous effort, through letter-writing campaigns, trips to the State Legislature and general visibility, to maintain our financial support from the state. To turn around now and stab them in the back by decreasing our own support of athletics would be a major injustice.

Our men's and women's athletic programs represent a tremendous asset to this university. We owe them our support and thanks, in student government, in the stands and in our school newspaper.

Jim Corson  
Student Senator  
Parliamentarian,  
Student Senate

## T-shirts a great idea

To the Editor:

Concerning the \$350 allocated by the Student Senate to buy

T-shirts for the senators:

I think buying T-shirts for the senators is a marvelous idea, but in order for the senators not to lose their identity in the winter, they will have to buy silk jackets to match the T-shirts ... or better yet, why don't they just use "our money" to buy new cars with personalized license plates for all the senators. Then they would really have an I.D.

Concerning the reactions of some senators to Dan Prescher's April 9 editorial:

What an atrocity! To think that a campus newspaper would bring to light a senate resolution that is a little controversial. Why, that's almost more shocking than the time those dirty reporters for the *Washington Post* squealed on President Nixon and friends. Just think, if we (un-politically involved as we are) hadn't been informed by the nasty reporters (Woodcock and Broomstein, I think), then President Nixon would still be able to hold his head high and Jimmy Carter would probably still be just a peanut farmer in Georgia.

Tom Foster  
Junior  
Education

## Nebraska State University

To the Editor:

July 1, 1968, the University of Omaha became the University of Nebraska at Omaha. One reason OU merged with NU was because of budget problems.

Everyone knows about the budget problems. But is UNL having as many budget problems as UNO? Most likely not! In the 1985-86 operating budget, \$110,428,660 of state tax money

was given to UNO and UNL. UNL received \$88,123,804, while UNO only received \$22,304,856. The federal funds for the same year was \$41,556,363 for both universities. UNL received \$35,817,665, while UNO only received \$5,938,698. The overall operating budget consisted of \$323,004,386 for both universities. UNL received \$268,214,286, while UNO only received \$54,790,100. UNL only has 9,230 more students than UNO, but UNL's budget is almost five times larger than UNO's budget.

With UNO receiving very little support, what can be done? A feasible proposal would be to make UNO into Nebraska State University (NSU). NSU would have an eight-membered Board of Regents. Bachelor and Master programs could be shared between both universities only if both boards of regents agree. Ph.D. programs would be shared by both universities. If UNL did not want to share Ph.D. programs, NSU would start up its own. Most of all, there would be a readjustment of state and federal funding.

For UNO to become NSU will take a lot of work. It can be accomplished only if more students are willing to get involved. Students must help by finding out which legislators, legislative candidates and governor candidates are in favor of UNO, so we can vote them into office. Also, students are needed to get businesses of Omaha and this state behind UNO, not to mention the people.

I urge any student that is willing to help this cause to come to a meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 1, at the Student Center State Room on the third floor. If the student body is willing to support and work for this goal, it can be accomplished. If we do not take action now, things will only get worse and never better!

Tim Kasun



# Romantic poet buys time as he polishes craft at UNO

By BETTY DYHRBERG

What fascination does modern poetry hold for UNO junior Michael Dennison? What keeps him writing sonnets and novels without seeing the fruits of his labor in print? Why does this 34-year-old man continue to wait tables at La Strada's Italian restaurant only to buy time to polish his craft through UNO's Writer's Workshop?

"The importance of life is not to be alive," said Dennison, "but to create. Poetry is the way I identify myself — not through my family as most people — but through my creativity."

"Contemporary poetry is so exciting," he said. "It relates immediacy and experience. It doesn't try to explain. I feel a link with the past through poetry. I feel it will never betray me."

## Chez Mickey

God's own busboy pours out the tired coffee  
As the cat-eyed waiter drops the complex check.  
"This is too much. I would write it off,  
But my accountant would chew out my ass.

"The chops were perfect, but the wine was piss  
And the service rude. I've a mind to stiff  
That tuxedoed cat. Why carry those guns?  
Why do they openly ogle my old wife?

"Waiter, bring me some Cognac — Napoleon  
Or Cordon Blue. I hate a table in the back.  
What is the key, my love? So wrong — so gone."  
He drums his fingers to the muzak.

And, with a signal from the maitre d',  
The bald, fat barman stirs in the big mickey.

—MICHAEL DENNISON

Dennison said he always loved to write and sent poems out for publication as early as age 14. In his late teens he wrote two novels, neither of which were published. "People say I'm one of the last Romantic poets, and I suppose that's true."

"When I was 21 I wanted to be the greatest poet of the 20th century. I thought I would carry the torch for all Romantic poets. Back then," he said, shaking his head, "I believed everything worth learning I could teach myself. I thought it was a negative thing for a poet to take writing classes, but the Writer's Workshop and the poetry courses taught by Arthur Homer turned out to be the best thing for me."

Though Dennison was born in Sioux City, Iowa, he didn't get a chance to see much of the town. His family was on its way to Kansas City where his father was to take a teaching position when Mike was born. The family paused briefly in Sioux City for the event and seven days later, moved on.

Dennison's father worked for the government in Europe and Asia as a military historian. As a result, he said, "I had 18 different addresses by the time I was 20." Dennison spent his teenage years in London where he studied Italian, Latin and French. He then moved on to Italy and then to Dublin, Ireland at age 25. "I was very political when I was younger," he said.

And this apparently runs in the family. His grandfather worked for the Union Pacific Railroad here in Omaha and was a major political boss during the first 30 years of this century.

In 1977, after some unpleasant events overseas, Dennison decided to come back to the States. He lived in Colorado Springs for two years and tried to get his life, his marriage, and his writing back together again. This however, was not to be the case. After his marriage broke up, he moved to Omaha, where his brother lives, to work on a novel, which was never finished.

Dennison then decided to go to college. "I didn't want to wait tables all my life," he said. "I came to UNO as a theatre major. I was interested in playwriting." So Dennison took acting classes, was a stage carpenter and did some studio work. "I was in one play," he said. "Amoretto. It was a medley of Shakespeare plays."

Dennison then switched his major to the Writer's Workshop



—Betty Dyhrberg

Dennison

after taking a class in that field. "I enjoyed acting," he said, "but my first love is writing. I really like the workshop and Art Homer is fantastic. The first thing he (Homer) did was to throw out my adjectives," Dennison said, laughing. "A lot of poets make that mistake and I was one of them."

Dennison is also a staff member of the *Nebraska Review*, UNO's literary magazine. "I read submissions and choose what goes into the magazine. Working on the *Review* has shown me

(continued on page 9)

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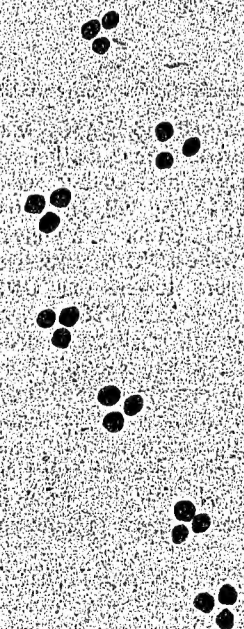
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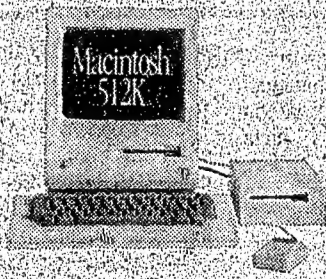
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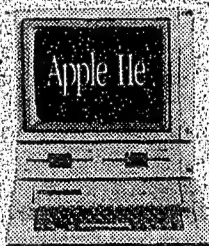
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## Last of the Romantics

(continued from page 8)

why some poems are accepted and why others are not. Poetry is a tactile thing. It has to do with the sense of feeling and touch.

"I don't sit down to write a sonnet — what I write comes out as a sonnet." But, Dennison said, "people often criticize my work because they don't understand the things I say. I don't try to be obscure or confusing. I want to be plain. I feel I've succeeded when my critics say, 'I don't know what this poem is about, but it has certainly moved me.'"

Dennison has won the Writer's Workshop award for outstanding performance in 1986. Now, after four years of study, he is not quite so shy about sending out his work for publication. "I feel my poetry has reached a caliber now where I shouldn't be embarrassed about sending it out."

Dennison has also been on the Dean's Advisory Committee during the past year and has been working on "getting the College of Fine Arts together. We are so scattered," he said. "Music here, art there, and writing in whatever closet they can squeeze us into."

As far as the future goes, Dennison said he would like to produce films. "I'd like to produce American films using ideas from eastern Europe. Their films are more poetic and so intensely visual." To accomplish this, he plans to go to graduate school in San Diego or Los Angeles. "By going there," he said, "I would have a chance to meet a lot of people in the film industry. I'd like to write for television. It's the nearest thing to poetry. The visual element is so important."

But the next thing on Dennison's agenda is the Reading Series in Contemporary Literature sponsored by the College of Fine Arts. Dennison will read a selection of his work in the Strauss Performing Arts Center, Room 105, on May 2 at 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

## New organizations seek members Advisory Board, Honor Society join UNO

By SUSAN LAUGHLIN

Two new organizations, the College of Business Administration Student Advisory Board and the Golden Key Honor Society, have been formed at UNO this semester.

The College of Business Administration Student Advisory Board was created to serve several purposes, said Greg Gunderson, organization vice president. "One of the purposes of our organization is to insure that student interests are adequately represented in decisions concerning the programs and policies of the college," he said.

The organization also provides a communication link between the students and the college administration. "By working with the dean of the college of business, we are able to promote the students' needs and assist the administration in solving problems that may occur," said Gunderson.

At this time, the organization has 20 members; however, applications are being accepted for next year's board. To be eligible for membership, a student must be enrolled in the College of Business Administration or declared business as a major. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.25 or above at the end of the preceding semester.

"Next year, the board plans to hold elections for its offices, and all applicants may be considered," said Gunderson. The organization does not have a membership fee or annual dues, and it plans to promote special money-making projects in the future.

The Golden Key organization is an honor society whose membership is by invitation only. To qualify for membership,

a student must be a junior or senior and rank in the top 15 percent of the university GPA system.

"What makes our organization distinctive from some of the others on campus is that it is open to part-time and full-time students if they meet the requirements," said Harold Hunter, vice president of the society.

This year, the organization gave two honorary memberships to Dale Bunsen, professor of teacher education, and Chancellor Del Weber.

"Next year, our organization hopes to try out a new 'instructor of the month' program in which faculty members would be recognized for outstanding contributions to UNO or the community," said Hunter. The organization also plans to support the Omaha Food Bank as its primary charity next year, he said.

The Golden Key Honor Society is a national organization. At an April 24th reception for its 364 members, the campus chapter received its national charter. "The Golden Key Honor Society is an organization which is on many universities across the country, and it is the national offices which determine membership requirements and general policy formats for the chapter here at UNO," said Hunter.

The organization offers two scholarships to its members each year, said Hunter. "This year, we were able to give two \$375 scholarships to our members. The amount of money we are able to award is determined by the nationals, and they base that amount on the number of people in our chapter."

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# Dateline London *Columnist suffers cultural shock*

"I'm back," I said to myself over and over again, but the words didn't penetrate.

I still had the feeling that Omaha was to be another weekend trip. Just like Paris, Scotland and Holland had been brief cultural experiences, I expected Omaha to be another quick trip and then back to London. I was warned about the side effects of culture shock, but I never dreamed my city of birth could seem unfamiliar.

Entering my house for the first time was odd. The carpet seemed browner, the dining room

**I expected Omaha to be another quick trip and then back to London. I never dreamed my city of birth could seem unfamiliar.**

light was much brighter, and my beloved Frisky looked much plumper. I had to reacquire myself with my own domestic surroundings.

The entire house had taken on a larger appearance, which I'm sure is due to the fact that my living quarters in London were so small. Climbing stairs to get to the upper level of the house was also a new experience for me, since my "flat" had so few plateaus.

My signature mural was still on my bedroom walls in spite of threats to paint over the black gloss design. A queen-size bed, oscillating fan, and cable television which were once living ne-

cessities didn't have the appeal they once had.

Probably the most missed material possession was my music collection. I was like an addict getting a "fix" as I placed my first album on the turntable and adjusted the bass, treble, tone and speakers to get the perfect sound.

Now there was one of my favorite pastimes... New Order on the turntable, all windows open and the breeze stirring the venetian blinds while just lying on the sofa thinking of nothing in particular. It wasn't that easy to get privacy with the population in London totalling in the millions.

A peaceful serenity was just what I had been craving. No tours, theater tickets, musical attractions or weekend endeavors to "own" my free time. I'm not saying I didn't enjoy them, because I did, but I was oversaturating myself with culture. It was to the point that I was going to events simply because they were available to me.

The peace was shortlived as the phone started ringing. Familiar voices heard through my telephone were a pleasurable "welcome home" present, though, as I renewed a camaraderie with former overseas pen pals.

I was eager to see all the bokes... er... friends with whom I frequent the Student Center, so I pulled the car out of storage and headed toward UNO. It took a little getting used to driving on the other side of the road, but the days of driver's education training paid off as I shifted into gear.

I was careful to park my car by the Elmwood Park swimming pool, since Campus Security

has a price on my head for past-due parking tickets. I assure you that I have all intentions of taking care of these violations, but until I get a little more financially sound, I have to avoid the men in the meter carts.

Walking the sidewalks to the Milo Bail Student Center, I noticed many familiar faces and caught glimpses of the fashion trends Omaha was falling prey to. Yup, UNO is still as trendy as I remember it to be.

At first meeting with my closer acquaintances at the Student Center, there was a bit of uneasiness. It had been a long time, and a lot of changes had taken place. I didn't know where to begin to tell all my experiences, so much that I was literally at a loss for words.

It wasn't long until the comfortable familiarity took over and we began scheming weekend plans. In some ways, I felt like I hadn't been away at all.

Except for the fact that I had no employer (AT&T evidently felt my "voluntary termination" was on a permanent basis), I was forming a daily routine, adjusting once again to everyday procedures of our capitalistic society.

I felt guilty enjoying some of my leisure time as I watched my friends worry about upcoming finals and papers. I am through with the study routine until August... what pleasing words to hear!

I plan to spend much of my summer investigating this unknown United States. I was ashamed to admit to friends overseas that I had done little travelling out of my own state. Meeting friends from other states is the perfect ex-

cuse to freeloader off their hospitality and see the U.S. at the same time!

I'll have to control this adventurous itch until I raise a little money to do some travelling. The Fourth of July celebration is already reserved for New York, since I plan to do a little yachting around the Statue of Liberty with one of my new acquaintances.

I do miss the excitement of Britain, but moderately so. I can safely say that the time has changed my outlooks and attitudes significantly.

I've come to the conclusion that, with the right ambition and motivation, much can be ac-

**The peace was shortlived as the phone started ringing.**

**Familiar voices heard through my telephone were a pleasurable "welcome home" present, though.**

complished — y'know, "the world is your oyster" and all.

In three months I succeeded in creating an attitude that 22 years of living hadn't been able to achieve.

So, without trying to sound like a truth-yielding prophet, I'll end this column by reiterating the idea of seeking other venues — be it in Omaha, the U.S., or abroad — and developing an appreciation and perception of all that exists around us.

—LISA STANKUS

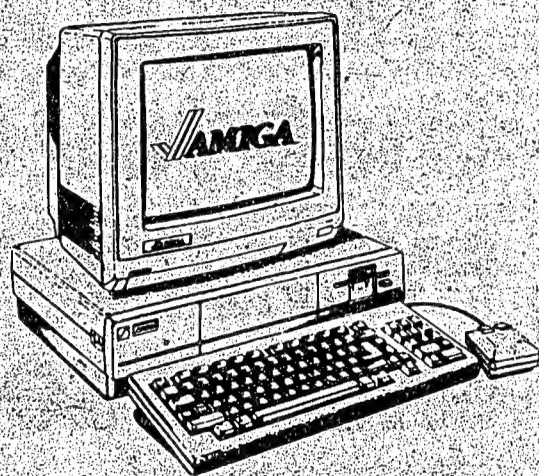
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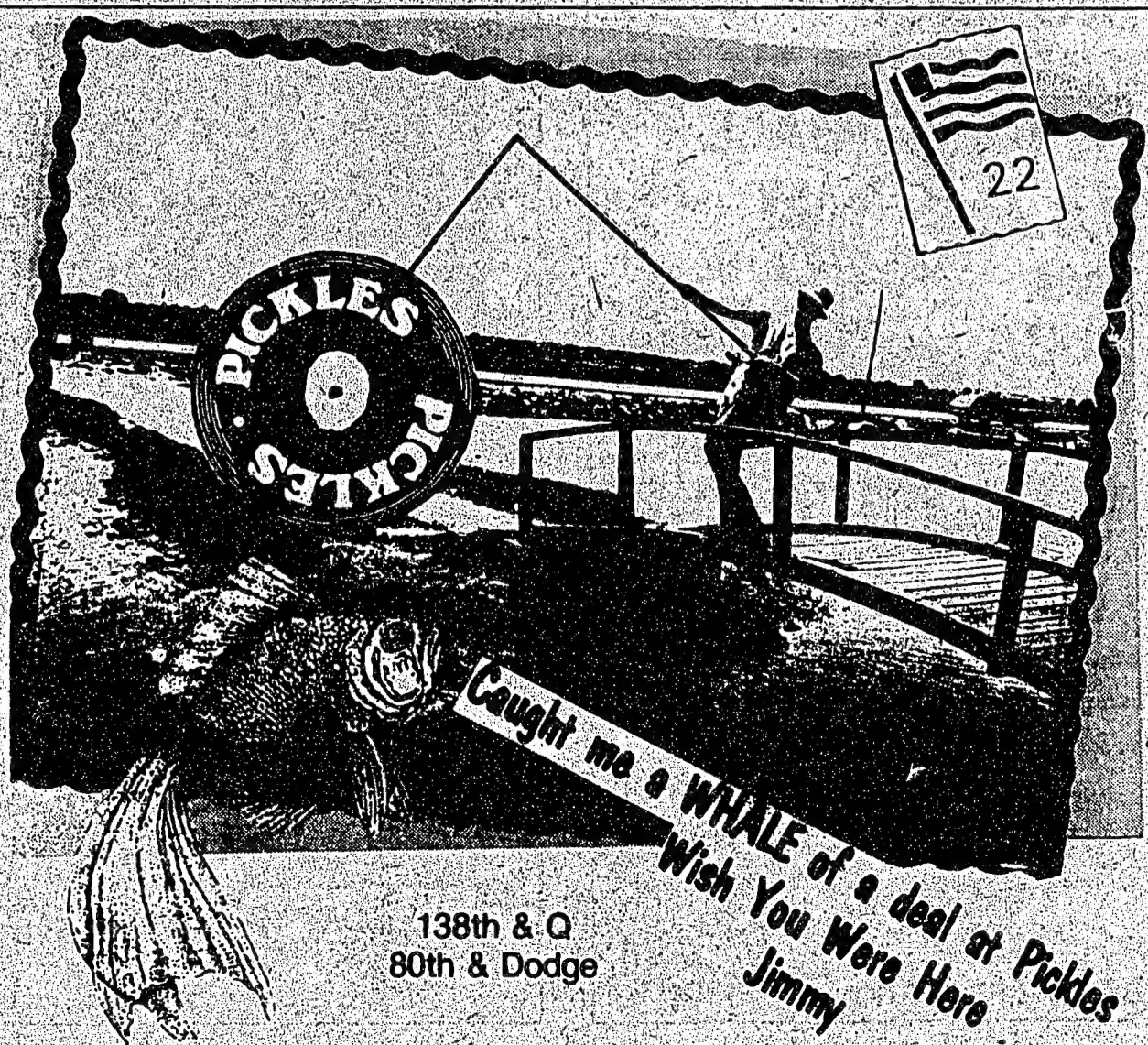
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# Sports

## UNO softball team edges Creighton 1-0

It hasn't happened since 1982.

But April 26 at Lady Jay Field, the UNO softball team showed what it's made of by defeating NCAA Division I Creighton University 1-0.

"If we can just stay in the ball game with a team like Creighton," said Chris Miner, UNO head coach, "we're doing all right."

Deb Hensley pitched a three-hitter to lead the Lady Mavs to victory in their first game of the Creighton Classic round-robin tournament.

The only score of the ball game came when UNO's Sharon Krebs tripled to score Staci Cook from first base.

Creighton then sent in pitcher Kandy Fouist, and although she held UNO scoreless for the final two innings, the Lady Jays were held by UNO's defense.

"Deb pitched well," said Miner. "But the kids played a super defense. They made some great catches."

Miner added that UNO's aggressive offense was a key to victory.

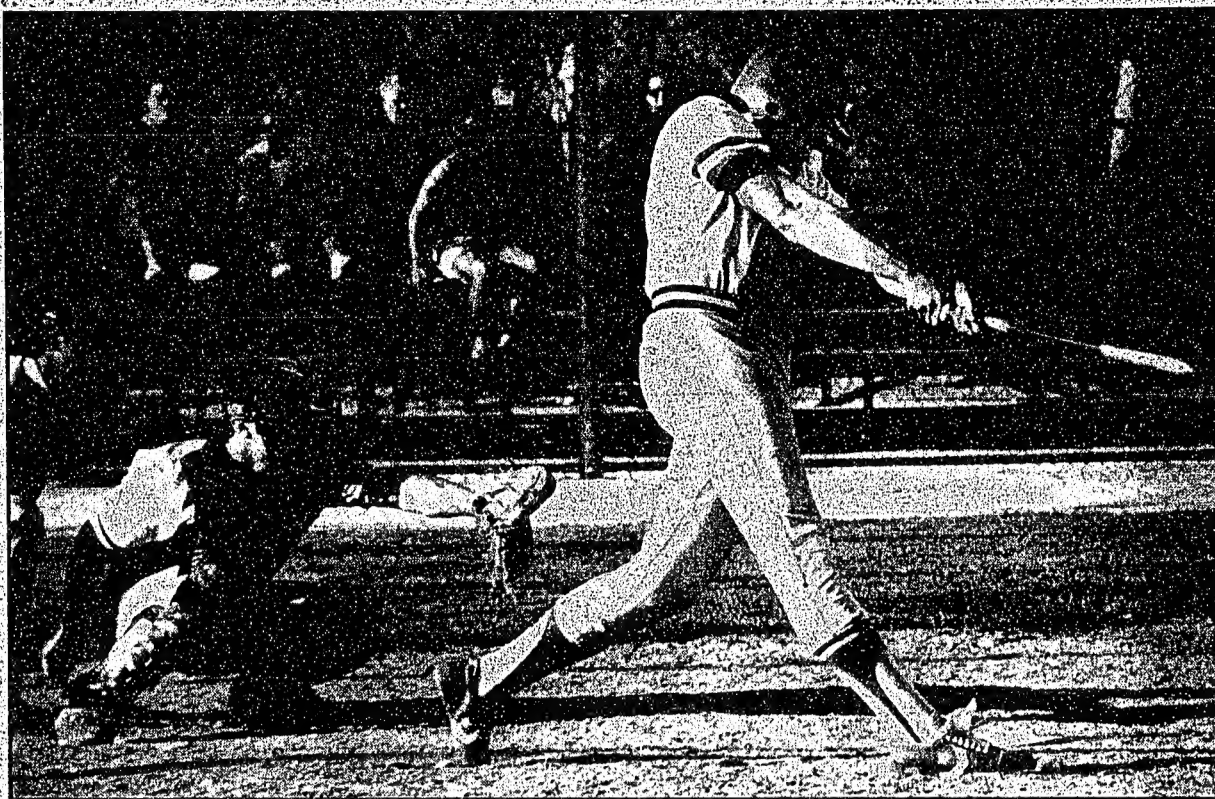
"They weren't intimidated," said Miner. "They just got up there and started swinging their bats. We were in control of the game the whole time. We haven't been like that with Creighton in years. We had people on the bases every inning."

Miner said the Lady Mavs' batting practice had been good the last few days before the tournament, and was one reason UNO hit well.

"It just all added up," said Miner, "defense, offense and pitching."

Creighton beat Missouri 3-0 in its first game of the tournament.

(continued on page 12)



—Kevin McAndrews

### That's all, folks

UNO's Karl Dierman blasts a bases-loaded single in the second game of a double-header against Northwest Missouri State April 23; Dierman, who played first base for the Mavs in Wednesday's games, drove in the winning run in the seventh inning with this hit, giving UNO a 3-2 victory. UNO lost the first game 13-0.

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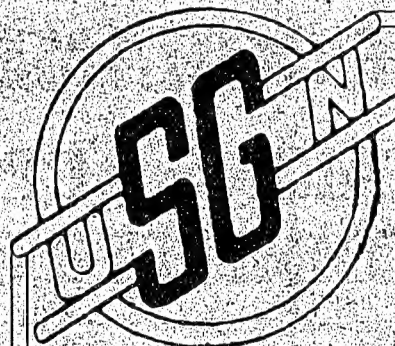
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# Lady Mavs' softball team edges Creighton

(continued from page 11)

ment. Creighton was sparked by first baseman Jody Schwartz who homered in the fourth inning.

UNO played NCAA Division I fifth-ranked Kansas in a night game at College World Series Park losing 7-0. All of the games were postponed until the afternoon because of rain, and UNO's second game had to be played at College World Series Park because there aren't any lights at Lady Jay Field.

In other action, Missouri beat Kansas State 5-0 and Kansas beat Kansas State 9-2. Play scheduled for Sunday was cancelled

because of rain.

The Lady Mavs are 33-15 and ranked No. 16 in the NCAA Division II.

## Add one more

Amy Phalen, a softball player from Omaha Daniel J. Gross High School, signed a national letter of intent to UNO, Miner said Sunday.

Miner said Phalen, an infielder, will get a chance to earn a position on the team next year. She added that Phalen is a member of the National Honor Society.

## Correction

Due to printer error, a story in the April 25 *Gateway* incorrectly identified Carmen Leahy as the wife of Bobby Thompson, UNO athletic director.

Mrs. Leahy is the wife of Don Leahy, Creighton University athletic director, and former athletic director of UNO.

The story also identified Mary Lou Fry as a special secretary in the chancellor's office. Fry changed jobs in January and is presently a secretary in University Relations, according to Tim Fitzgerald, assistant director of University Relations.

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